2.2.3.2.7.1 "Aircraft Trajectory Intent" Messages

The "Aircraft Trajectory Intent" Message is used to provide the current state of the aircraft in navigating to its current destination Trajectory Change Point (TCP) and the next Trajectory Change Point, i.e., TCP + 1. Format of the message is provided in Figure 2-8, while further definition of each of the subfields is provided in the subsequent paragraphs.

Notes:

1. ~~***Note:***~~ *The ADS-B system must be capable of processing independent Aircraft Trajectory Intent Messages that are mutually exclusive to each other. That is, that one message may apply to the transfer of Current TCP information while the other message is used to transfer Next TCP (TCP+1) information.*

2. *At the time of the adoption of DO-260, it was decided by RTCA SC-186 Plenary that insufficient information was known about Trajectory Change Points and their usage to broadcast a TCP Valid Flag set equal to one (1), indicating that the following TCP Data was "Valid," without a clear understanding of what that data represented. It was agreed that the TCP Valid Flag be set to zero (0) until the issue of TCP was resolved by changes to the ADS-B MASPS, RTCA DO-242.*

   It was further agreed by the RTCA SC-186 Plenary, which approved DO-260 that all remaining text in DO-260 regarding TCP and TCP+1 was to remain as written, without modification, except for the test procedure in subparagraph 2.4.3.2.7.1.4, which deals specifically with the TCP Valid Flag in subparagraph 2.2.3.2.7.1.4.

   In RTCA DO-260A, no change has been made to any text related to TCP/TCP+1. As such, the TCP Valid Flag remains set to zero (0) and it is broadcast that the TCP/TCP+1 data in the messages is not valid.